IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and listings.

Claim 1 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus adapted to accommodate a plurality of telephone lines connectable with respective different remote partners at a same time, comprising:

a first facsimile communication unit connectable with a first telephone line, adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the first telephone line;

a second facsimile communication unit connectable with a second telephone line, adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the second telephone line;

a power supply unit adapted to supply power to said first and second facsimile communication units;

a detection unit adapted to detect actuation factors for said first and second facsimile communication units; and

a controller adapted to, when said first and second facsimile communication units are on standby, control said power supply unit to supply power to said second facsimile communication unit but not to supply power to said first facsimile communication unit, in order to retain said first facsimile communication unit as it is on standby, in response to detection of an actuation factor for said second facsimile communication unit by said detection unit,

wherein each of said first and second facsimile communication units can execute communication for image data, independently, and while one of these facsimile communication units is executing the communication, the other facsimile communication unit can be retained on standby, thereby reducing power dissipation.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said detection unit detects an actuation factor in response to detection of a call signal from said second telephone line.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said detection unit detects an actuation factor in response to a key inputted by a user through an operation unit.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising a document sheet reading unit, wherein said detection unit detects an actuation factor in response to detection of a document sheet in said document sheet reading unit.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising a relay for turning on and off power from said power supply unit to said second facsimile communication unit, wherein said first facsimile communication unit turns on said relay in response to detection of an actuation factor by said detection unit.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus according to Claim 1,

wherein said power supply unit is adapted to switch whether or not power is supplied to said second facsimile communication unit, and

wherein said first facsimile communication unit enables said power supply unit to start supplying power to said second facsimile communication unit in response to detection of an actuation factor by said detection unit.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said second facsimile communication unit suspends supplying a clock signal to said second facsimile communication unit itself while on standby, and starts supplying the clock signal to said second facsimile communication unit itself in response to an actuation signal from said first facsimile communication unit.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus according to Claim 1,

wherein said second facsimile communication unit is provided with a power source control unit operating even on standby, and

wherein said second facsimile communication unit suspends supplying power to said second facsimile communication unit itself while on standby, and starts supplying power to said second facsimile communication unit itself in response to an actuation signal from said first facsimile communication unit.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising a second detection unit adapted to detect an actuation factor with respect to said first facsimile communication unit,

wherein said first facsimile communication unit is provided with a low power dissipation control unit operating even on standby, and

wherein said first facsimile communication unit shifts to a low power dissipation state while on standby, and said low power dissipation control unit causes said first facsimile communication unit to shift to an operational state in response to an actuation signal from said second detection unit.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus adapted to accommodate a plurality of telephone lines connectable with respective different remote partners at a same time, comprising:

a first facsimile communication unit connectable with a first telephone line, adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the first telephone line;

a second facsimile communication unit connectable with a second telephone line, adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the second telephone line;

a storage unit adapted to store image data received by said second facsimile communication unit;

a detection unit adapted to detect actuation factors for said first and second facsimile communication units;

a power supply unit adapted to supply power to said first and second facsimile communication units; and

~~an output~~ a printer unit adapted to ~~output~~ print out image data received by said first and second facsimile communication units,

wherein, when said first and second facsimile communication units are in a standby state of not receiving power from said power supply unit,

in response to detection of an actuation factor for said first facsimile communication unit by said detection unit, said first facsimile communication unit shifts from the standby state to an operational state of receiving power from said power supply unit in order to receive image data, while said second facsimile communication unit is retained on standby, and said first facsimile communication unit outputs the received image data to said ~~output~~ printer unit, and

in response to detection of an actuation factor for said second facsimile communication unit by said detection unit, said second facsimile communication unit shifts from the standby state to an operational state of receiving power from said power supply unit in order to receive image data, stores the received image data in said storage unit, and enables said first facsimile communication unit to shift from the standby state to the operational state, and said first facsimile communication unit outputs the image data stored in said storage unit to said output unit.

Claim 11 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein said second facsimile communication unit sends an actuation signal to said detection unit after completion of image data reception.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus according to Claim 10, wherein said first facsimile communication unit is provided with a memory for storing image data received from said storage unit, said second facsimile communication unit transfers the image data stored in said storage unit to the memory of said first facsimile communication unit, and said first facsimile communication unit outputs the image data transferred to the memory to said output unit.

Claim 13 (canceled)

Claim 14 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus according to Claim 10, further comprising a second detection unit adapted to detect an actuation factor for said second facsimile communication unit, wherein said second facsimile communication unit is adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby and shift from the standby state to the operational state in response to detection of the actuation factor by said second detection unit.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus adapted to accommodate a plurality of telephone lines connectable with respective different remote partners at a same time, comprising:

a first facsimile communication unit connectable with a first telephone line, adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the first telephone line;

a second facsimile communication unit connectable with a second telephone line, adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the second telephone line;

~~an input~~ a reading unit adapted to ~~input~~ read image data;

an instruction unit adapted to instruct transmission of the image data ~~inputted~~ read by said ~~input~~ reading unit;

a power supply unit adapted to supply power to said first and second facsimile communication units; and

a controller adapted to, when said first and second facsimile communication units are on standby,

in response to an instruction from said instruction unit during a communication by said first facsimile communication unit, shift said second facsimile communication unit from a standby state of not receiving power from said power supply unit to an operational state of receiving power from said power supply unit in order to transmit image data, and,

in response to an instruction from said instruction unit, shift said first facsimile communication unit from a standby state to an operational state in order to transmit image data from said first facsimile communication unit, while retaining said second communication as it is on standby without shifting said second facsimile communication unit to an operational state.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus according to Claim 15, wherein said ~~input~~ reading unit is a scanner for reading a document sheet.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said controller shifts said first facsimile communication unit from a standby state to an operational state in response to detection of an actuation factor for said first facsimile communication unit by said detection unit.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus adapted to accommodate a plurality of telephone lines connectable with respective different remote partners at a same time, comprising:

a first facsimile communication unit connectable with a first telephone line, adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the first telephone line;

a second facsimile communication unit connectable with a second telephone line, adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the second telephone line;

a detection unit adapted to detect actuation factors for said first and second facsimile communication units;

a power supply unit adapted to supply power to said first and second facsimile communication units; and

~~an output~~ a printer unit adapted to ~~output~~ print out image data received by said first and second facsimile communication units,

wherein, when said first and second facsimile communication units are in a standby state of not receiving power from said power supply unit,

in response to detection of an actuation factor for said first facsimile communication unit by said detection unit, said first facsimile communication unit shifts from the standby state to an operational state of receiving power from said power supply unit in order to receive image data, while retaining said second facsimile communication unit as it is on standby without shifting said second facsimile communication unit from the standby state to an operational state, and said first facsimile communication unit outputs the received image data to said ~~output~~ printer unit, and,

in response to detection of an actuation factor for said second facsimile communication unit, said second facsimile communication unit shifts from the standby state to an operational state of receiving power from said power supply unit in order to receive image

data and enables said first facsimile communication unit to shift from the standby state to the operational state, and said first facsimile communication unit outputs the received image data to said output unit.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus adapted to accommodate a plurality of telephone lines connectable with respective different remote partners at a same time, comprising:

a first facsimile communication unit connectable with a first telephone line, adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the first line;

a second facsimile communication unit connectable with a second telephone line, adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the second telephone line;

a first controller for controlling said first facsimile communication unit, said first controller adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby;

a second controller for controlling said second facsimile communication unit, said second controller adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby; and

a power supply unit adapted to supply power to said first and second facsimile communication units and said first and second controllers,

wherein said first controller includes a detection unit adapted to detect actuation factors for said first and second facsimile communication units, and, when said first

and second facsimile communication units and said first and second controllers are in a standby state, said second facsimile communication unit and said second controller shift from the standby state of not receiving power from said power supply unit to an operational state in response to detection of an actuation factor for said second facsimile communication unit by the detection unit, retaining said first facsimile communication unit and said first controller as they are on standby.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus according to Claim 19, wherein said first facsimile communication unit and said first controller shift from the standby state to an operational state in response to detection of an actuation factor for said first facsimile communication unit by said detection unit.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus according to Claim 19, further comprising a storage unit adapted to store received image data and ~~an output~~ a printer unit adapted to output the received image data, wherein after said second facsimile communication unit and said second controller shift from the standby state to the operational state and image data received in said second facsimile communication unit is stored in said storage unit, said second controller outputs an actuation factor to said first controller in order to output the received image data to said ~~output~~ printer unit, and said first controller shifts from the standby state to an operational state.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus according to Claim 19, further comprising ~~an output~~ a printer unit adapted to output received image data, wherein after said second facsimile communication unit and said second controller shift from the standby state to the operational state, said second controller outputs an actuation factor to said first controller in order to output the received image data to said ~~output~~ printer unit, and said first controller shifts from the standby state to an operational state.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The ~~communication~~ facsimile apparatus according to Claim 19, further comprising an input unit adapted to input image data and an instruction unit adapted to instruct transmission of the image data inputted by said input unit, wherein said first controller shifts said second facsimile communication unit and said second controller from the standby state to the operational state in accordance with an instruction by said instruction unit.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A communication method adapted to accommodate a plurality of telephone lines connectable with respective different remote partners at a same time, comprising the steps of:

connecting a first facsimile communication unit with a first telephone line, the first facsimile communication unit being adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and being adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the first telephone line;

connecting a second facsimile communication unit with a second telephone line, the second facsimile communication unit being adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and being adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the second telephone line;

providing a power supply unit adapted to supply power to the first and second communication units;

detecting actuation factors for the first and second facsimile communication units; and,

when the first and second facsimile communication units are on standby, controlling the power supply unit to supply power to the second facsimile communication unit but not to supply power to the first facsimile communication unit, in order to retain the first facsimile communication unit as it is on standby, in response to detection of an actuation factor for the second facsimile communication unit in said detecting step.

Claim 25 (currently amended): The communication method according to Claim 24, wherein said detecting step ~~detects~~ includes detecting an actuation factor in response to detection of a call signal from the second telephone line.

Claim 26 (currently amended): The communication method according to Claim 24, wherein said detecting step ~~detects~~ includes detecting an actuation factor in response to a key inputted by a user through an operation unit.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The communication method according to Claim 24, further comprising the step of detecting, by using a document sheet reading unit, an actuation factor in response to detection of a document sheet in the document sheet reading unit.

Claim 28 (currently amended): The communication method according to Claim 24, further comprising the step of turning on and off power, by using a relay, from the power supply unit to the second facsimile communication unit, wherein the first facsimile communication unit turns on the relay in response to detection of an actuation factor in said detecting step.

Claim 29 (currently amended): The communication method according to Claim 24,

wherein the power supply unit is adapted to switch whether or not power is supplied to the second facsimile communication unit, and

wherein the first facsimile communication unit enables the power supply unit to start supplying power to the second facsimile communication unit in response to detection of an actuation factor in said detecting step.

Claim 30 (currently amended): The communication method according to Claim 24, wherein the second facsimile communication unit suspends supplying a clock signal to the second communication itself while on standby, and starts supplying the clock signal to the

second facsimile communication unit itself in response to an actuation signal from the first facsimile communication unit.

Claim 31 (currently amended): The communication method according to Claim 24,

wherein the second facsimile communication unit is provided with a power source control unit operating even on standby, and

wherein the second facsimile communication unit suspends supplying power to the second facsimile communication unit itself while on standby, and starts supplying power to the second facsimile communication unit itself in response to an actuation signal from the first facsimile communication unit.

Claim 32 (currently amended): The communication method according to Claim 24, further comprising a second detecting step, of detecting an actuation factor with respect to the first facsimile communication unit,

wherein the first facsimile communication unit is provided with a low power dissipation control unit operating even on standby, and

wherein the first facsimile communication unit shifts to a low power dissipation state on standby, and the low power dissipation control unit causes the first facsimile communication unit to shift to an operational state in response to an actuation ~~signal from~~ factor detected in said second detecting step.

Claim 33 (currently amended): The communication method according to Claim 24, wherein shifting of the first facsimile communication unit from a standby state to an operational state occurs in response to detection of an actuation factor for the first facsimile communication unit in said ~~detection~~ detecting step.

Claim 34 (currently amended): A communication method adapted to accommodate a plurality of telephone lines connectable with respective different remote partners at a same time, comprising the steps of:

connecting a first facsimile communication unit with a first telephone line, the first facsimile communication unit being adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and being adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the first telephone line;

connecting a second facsimile communication unit with a second telephone line, the second facsimile communication unit being adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and being adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the second telephone line;

storing image data received by the second facsimile communication unit;

detecting actuation factors for the first and second facsimile communication units;

providing a power supply unit adapted to supply power to the first and second facsimile communication units; and

~~outputting~~ printing image data received by the first and second facsimile communication units,

wherein, when the first and second facsimile communication units are in a standby state of not receiving power from the power supply unit,

in response to detection of an actuation factor for the first facsimile communication unit in said detecting step, the first facsimile communication unit shifts from the standby state to an operational state of receiving power from the power supply unit in order to receive image data, while the second facsimile communication unit is retained on standby, and the first facsimile communication unit provides the received image data ~~for~~ to be printed in said ~~outputting~~ printing step, and

in response to detection of an actuation factor for said second facsimile communication unit in said detecting step, the second facsimile communication unit shifts from the standby state to an operational state of receiving power from the power supply unit in order to receive image data, stores the received image data in a storage unit, and enables the first facsimile communication unit to shift from the standby state to the operational state, and the first facsimile communication unit provides the image data stored in the storage unit ~~for~~ to be printed in said ~~outputting~~ printing step.

Claim 35 (currently amended): The communication method according to Claim 34, wherein the second facsimile communication unit sends an actuation signal to a detection unit after completion of image data reception.

Claim 36 (currently amended): The communication method according to Claim 34, wherein the first facsimile communication unit is provided with a memory for storing

image data received from the storage unit, the second facsimile communication unit transfers the image data in the storage unit to the memory of the first facsimile communication unit, and the first facsimile communication unit outputs the image data transferred to the memory to an output unit.

Claim 37 (canceled)

Claim 38 (previously added): The communication method according to Claim 34, further comprising a second ~~detection~~ detecting step, of detecting an actuation factor for the second facsimile communication unit, wherein the second facsimile communication unit is adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby and to shift from the standby state to an operational state in response to detection of the actuation factor in said second ~~detection~~ detecting step.

Claim 39 (currently amended): A communication method adapted to accommodate a plurality of telephone lines connectable with respective different remote partners at a same time, comprising the steps of:

connecting a first facsimile communication unit with a first telephone line, the first facsimile communication unit being adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and being adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the first telephone line;

connecting a second facsimile communication unit with a second telephone line, the second facsimile communication unit being adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and being adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the second telephone line;

inputting image data;

instructing transmission of the inputted image data;

providing a power supply unit adapted to supply power to the first and second facsimile communication units; and

controlling, when the first and second facsimile communication units are on standby,

in response to an instruction in said instructing step during a communication by the first facsimile communication unit, to shift the second facsimile communication unit from a standby state of not receiving power from the power supply unit to an operational state of receiving power from the power supply unit in order to transmit image data, and,

in response to an instruction in said instructing step, to shift the first facsimile communication unit from a standby state to an operational state in order to transmit image data from the first facsimile communication unit, while retaining the second communication as it is on standby without shifting the second facsimile communication unit to an operational state.

Claim 40 (currently amended): The communication method according to Claim 39, wherein the image data is inputted by a scanner.

Claim 41 (currently amended): A communication method adapted to accommodate a plurality of telephone lines connectable with respective different remote partners at a same time, comprising the steps of:

connecting a first facsimile communication unit with a first telephone line, the first facsimile communication unit being adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and being adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the first telephone line;

connecting a second facsimile communication unit with a second telephone line, the second facsimile communication unit being adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and being adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the second telephone line;

detecting actuation factors for the first and second facsimile communication units;

providing a power supply unit adapted to supply power to the first and second facsimile communication units; and

~~outputting~~ printing image data received by the first and second facsimile communication units,

wherein, when the first and second facsimile communication units are in a standby state of not receiving power from the power supply unit,

in response to detection of an actuation factor for the first facsimile communication unit in said detecting step, the first facsimile communication unit shifts from the standby state to an operational state of receiving power from the power supply unit in order to receive image data, while retaining the second facsimile communication unit as it is on standby without shifting the second facsimile communication unit from the standby state to an operational state, and the first facsimile communication unit provides the received image data ~~for~~ to be printed in said ~~outputting~~ printing step, and,

in response to detection of an actuation factor for the second facsimile communication unit, the second facsimile communication unit shifts from the standby state to an

operational state of receiving power from the power supply unit in order to receive image data and enables the first facsimile communication unit to shift from the standby state to the operational state, and the first facsimile communication unit provides the received image data for printing in said ~~outputting~~ printing step.

Claim 42 (currently amended): A communication method adapted to accommodate a plurality of telephone lines connectable with respective different remote partners at a same time, comprising the steps of:

connecting a first facsimile communication unit with a first telephone line, the first facsimile communication unit being adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and being adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the first telephone line;

connecting a second facsimile communication unit with a second telephone line, the second facsimile communication unit being adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby, and being adapted to communicate with a remote partner via the second telephone line;

controlling by a first controller the first facsimile communication unit, the first controller being adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby;

controlling by a second controller the second facsimile communication unit, the second controller being adapted to reduce power dissipation on standby; and

providing a power supply unit adapted to supply power to the first and second facsimile communication units and the first and second controllers,

wherein the first controller includes a detection unit adapted to detect actuation factors for the first and second facsimile communication units, and, when the first and second facsimile communication units and the first and second controllers are in a standby state, the

second facsimile communication unit and the second controller shift from the standby state of not receiving power from the power supply unit to an operational state in response to detection of an actuation factor for the second facsimile communication unit by the detection unit, retaining the first facsimile communication unit and the first controller as they are on standby.

Claim 43 (currently amended): The communication method according to Claim 42, wherein the first facsimile communication unit and the first controller shift from the standby state to an operational state in response to detection of an actuation factor for the first facsimile communication unit by the detection unit.

Claim 44 (currently amended): The communication method according to Claim 42, further comprising the steps of storing in a storage unit received image data and outputting using an output unit the received image data, wherein after the second facsimile communication unit and the second controller shift from the standby state to the operational state and image data received in the second facsimile communication unit is stored in the storage unit, the second controller outputs an actuation factor to the first controller in order to output the received image data to the output unit, and the first controller shifts from the standby state to an operational state.

Claim 45 (currently amended): The communication method according to Claim 42, further comprising the step of outputting received image data, wherein after the second facsimile communication unit and the second controller shift from the standby state to the operational state, the second controller outputs an actuation factor to the first controller in order

to output the received image data to an output unit, and the first controller shifts from the standby state to an operational state.

Claim 46 (currently amended): The communication method according to Claim 42, further comprising the steps of inputting image data and instructing transmission of the inputted image data, wherein the first controller shifts the second facsimile communication unit and the second controller from the standby state to the operational state in accordance with an instruction from said instructing step.